date of initiation of the investigation. However, on the basis of the Preliminary Findings, duty may be imposed and levied by the Department of Revenue within 2½ to 3 months from the date of initiation to provide relief to the Domestic Industry.

Export-Import Trend of Commodities

559. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export-import trend of the various commodities in the country during the last two years, till date;

(b) the details of main items which have been exported during this period; and

(c) what steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to increase the export of our country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), details of principal commodities and their import and export during the last two years in US Million Dollars is as under:

Export Commodities	1998-99	1999-2000*	2000-2001 (April-Oct.)*
Plantation	949	722	357
Agri. Products	3998	3577	1917
Marine Products	1038	1180	781
Ores & Mineral	893	907	656
Leather & Products	1661	1538	1150
Gems & Jewellery	5929	7636	4503
Sports Goods	73	64	40
Chemicals & related products	4165	4735	3380
Engg. Goods	3805	4373	3213
Electronic Goods	588	574	522
Textiles	8323	9253	6195

*Provisional

Export Commodities	1998-99	1999-2000*	2000-2001 (April-Oct.)*
Handicrafts	633	670	411
Carpets	544	606	354
Petroleum Products	89	30	774
Import Commodities	**1998-99**	**1999-2000***	**2000-2001 (April-Oct.)***
Fertilizers	1076	1386	494
Edible Oil	1804	1842	830
Non-ferrous metals	597	544	297
Metalliferrous ores	724	767	371
Iron and Steel	1063	1009	496
Petroleum Products	6399	10482	9772
Pearls and precious stones	3760	5376	2957
Machinery	4610	4093	2130
Project Goods	2688	884	299
Coal, coke and briquettes	980	991	651
Chemicals	2684	2879	1445
Artificial resin	676	706	324
Professional instruments	820	815	490
Electronic Goods	2223	2655	2047
Gold and Silver	5072	4405	2365

*Provisional

(c) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions. Special Economic Zones are also being set up to boost exports.